

CITY OF WICHITA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
STORM WATER MANAGEMENT DIVISION

**EROSION CONTROL INSTRUCTIONS
FOR
UTILITY WORK**

The purpose of this document is to outline utility company responsibilities when working on several different types of projects in the City of Wichita. Utility companies, and their contractors, are urged to contact the Office of Storm Water Management at 268-4498 should you have any questions or would like to discuss the particulars of any project.

I. Subdivision Work:

1. Subdivision developers and homebuilders have specific erosion control responsibilities on their projects. This will result in the installation of erosion control devices at various locations in the subdivision.
2. Most subdivisions will fall in the over five acres category and will, therefore, have a federal/state NPDES storm water permit and pollution prevention plan associated with it. Before you can work on such a site, federal law **REQUIRES** that you review the pollution prevention plan and sign a certification statement agreeing to comply with it. This statement should be furnished to you by the developer. Not doing this puts you at risk for enforcement actions at the Federal, State, and local level.
3. Should you encounter a subdivision less than five acres in size, a formal storm water permit and pollution prevention plan will probably not exist, therefore, there will not be a certification statement to sign before working on the site. **The use of erosion control devices are, however, required.**
4. If the subdivision developer and individual builders are in compliance with Federal, State, and local laws, you will encounter erosion control devices in the subdivision you will work in. If it is necessary for you to remove or modify them to get your work done. **YOU MUST REPLACE THEM** within 24-hours of the time your work at that location is complete. Failure to do so is a violation of the City Code and will subject the Utility to enforcement actions.
5. Utility company trucks that track mud onto any city street are also subject to enforcement actions under City Code. Stabilized construction entrances must be installed wherever trucks enter or exit onto any street. Should such an entrance fail to remove the mud, wheel washing is required. **Any mud that is inadequately tracked onto streets must be cleaned up at the end of each working day.**

6. Utility companies may run into situations in subdivisions where you may be required to install your own erosion control devices, separate from those required of developers or builders. To determine if this is the case, just ask the question: “Am I involved in an activity that is disturbing earth that could result in sediments being washed into streets, storm sewers, ditches or lakes when it rains?” If the answer is yes, and devices are not already in place, then **YOU MUST INSTALL THEM.**
7. For the utility company, dealing with the erosion control issues are business decisions. Obviously, compliance with the above will increase the cost of doing work, which would normally be passed along to your customer. If a developer or builder wants to accept your compliance responsibilities to keep his cost down, then you should make this a contractual obligation in case he fails to perform because, technically, **YOU ARE STILL RESPONSIBLE** for meeting City Code requirements.

II. Commercial Building Sites

1. The owner of and contractors working on these sites have specific erosion control responsibilities. This will result in the installation of erosion control devices at various locations.
2. The five acre or over rule for subdivisions (See Subdivision Work, Section I.2 and 3) also applies to commercial building sites.
3. Erosion control devices that are installed on these sites must be protected and maintained. If it is necessary for you to remove or modify them to get your work done, **YOU MUST REPLACE THEM** within 24-hours of the time your work at each location is complete. Failure to do so is a violation of the City Code and will subject the utility to enforcement actions.
4. Utility company trucks that track mud onto any city street are also subject to enforcement actions under City Code. Stabilized construction entrances must be installed wherever trucks enter or exit any street. Should such an entrance fail to remove the mud, wheel washing is required.
5. Utility companies may run into situations on commercial building sites where you may be required to install you own erosion control devices, separate from those required of the owner or other contractors. To determine if this is the case, just ask the question: “Am I involved in an activity that is disturbing earth that could result in sediment being washed into streets, storm sewers, ditches or lakes when it rains?” If the answer is yes, and devices are not already in place, then **YOU MUST INSTALL THEM.**
6. For the utility company, dealing with the erosion control issues are business decisions. If the owner or another contractor wants to accept your compliance

responsibilities to keep his cost down, then you should make this a contractual obligation in case he fails to perform because, technically, **YOU ARE STILL RESPONSIBLE** for meeting City Code requirements.

III. Residential Building Sites:

1. Replace or repair any on site erosion control devices damaged by your crews. Repairs **must** be made before the end of the workday. Failure to do so is a violation of City Code and will subject the utility to enforcement actions.
2. Do not stockpile dirt in the streets over night or during rainfall events. If this cannot be avoided, you **must** place erosion control devices around the stockpiles and in the adjacent street gutters. These devices will normally consist of sandbag protection, or equal.
3. Do not allow equipment to track dirt or mud onto streets. Should this occur, clean up prior to the end of that days work. Must use stabilized construction entrance for repeated access to off-road areas.

IV. City Street Construction Projects:

1. Often times, utility companies are required to relocate their facilities ahead of city street construction projects. This work is made increasingly difficult by the limited work areas within which the utilities have to work.
2. During utility relocations on these projects, the utility companies are responsible for using erosion control devices to prevent eroded soil from entering the cities street, storm sewers, ditches and lakes. Failure to utilize these devices is a violation of City Code and will result in enforcement actions being taken against the utility.
3. Do not allow mud to be tracked onto city streets. Use stabilized construction entrances at locations of repeated use. If this does not work, wheel washing will be required. Should mud get tracked onto street, clean up prior to end of workday
4. Do not stockpile dirt in the streets over night or during rainfall events. If this cannot be avoided, you **must** place erosion control devices around the stockpile and in the adjacent street gutters. These devices will consist of sandbag protection.
5. Install inlet protection at all inlets down grade from the work site that could receive soil contaminated runoff.
6. Back of curb erosion control devices will be required whenever there is not at least an eight foot wide grass buffer strip, undisturbed, between the disturbed earth and the back of curb. Back of curb devices can be haybales, silt fence,

erosion control fabrics, or other equivalent methods approved by the City. Install and maintain all devices according to City Standard Detail Sheets.

7. Install and maintain erosion control devices at any location where mud can run into any street, storm sewer, ditch, or lake during rain or snow melt events.
8. Erosion control devices **must** remain in place until such time as the disturbed earth is restabilized with 75% grass or pavement.